



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
Rock Island District

United States Department of Defense

US Army Corps of Engineers - Rock Island District

UMR-IWW Navigation Study 1994 Public Meetings

Interim Product Report, November 1995

"Response to Issues Raised at the Public and NEPA Scoping Meetings of November 1994"

Issue Statements (Part 3 of 6)

HISTORIC PROPERTIES

41. The way this study is addressing historic properties needs to be clearly defined.

Response: The objective of the Upper Mississippi River - Illinois Waterway System Navigation Study historic properties plan is to comply with the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and other relevant statutes, including the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), which require consideration of impacts to historic properties during the planning of Federal actions. This effort is focusing on evaluating the potential effects of proposed improvements to significant historic properties or cultural resources which include archeological sites, shipwrecks and other under water resources, bridges, buildings, and the locks and dams themselves.

The locks, dams, and associated structures (including control stations), built in the 1930s, have been determined eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Any proposed construction will attempt to minimize the visual impact to these features. If significant impacts are not avoidable, then appropriate mitigation will be coordinated with the State Historic Preservation Officers, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and interested publics.

The lands adjacent to the Mississippi River preserve archeological deposits important in understanding the prehistory and history of this region. Existing information on the nature and location of known archeological resources will be consolidated and used to assess the potential effect of increased barge traffic on significant cultural resources. Effects of concern include bank erosion caused by wake waves, tows queuing into landforms containing (or with the potential to contain) sites, the effects of recreation boating, and potential impacts related to any proposed construction activities. The Corps is anticipating that the study will result in the execution of a Programmatic Agreement, which would detail any additional work needed to be done before or during any recommended construction.

Comment:

- Are the lock houses at Locks and Dams 1, 3, and 4 which are being considered for destruction being reviewed for national significance? (1)

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